1977

I. MANAGEMENT UNITS

A. Region 4, Targhee National Forest

1. Description of Infested Areas.

Recent increases in the western spruce budworm have been detected on the Dubois and Island Park Ranger Districts along the southern slopes of the Centennial Mountains. Visible defoliation detected and mapped by aerial observers include the Beaver Creek and Camas Creek watersheds on the Dubois District and the Henry's Lake area on the Island Park District. The range and intensity of the western spruce budworm infestation is illustrated on map A and B in the appendix.

a. Vegetation

The greatest concentration of defoliation is presently occurring within the Douglas-fir/pinegrass, alpine fir/pinegrass and Engelmann spruce/horsetail climax habitat types. The majority of the infested forest canopy is composed of uneven-aged stands of Douglas-fir and alpine fir including overmature, mature, and immature timber with a light seedling and dense grass or forb understory. Most of these stands have been selectionally logged prior to the turn of the century and are currently part of the commercial timber component on the Targhee National Forest.

A western spruce budworm impact survey conducted during the 1976 field season has indicated substantial mortality of regeneration and top kill of pole size timber within stands suffering heavy defoliation. Stands possessing medium and light defoliation are currently experiencing a decrease in normal radial growth and cone production but are resisting indications of increasing mortality.

The duration and future intensities of the western spruce budworm infestation are currently unknown, however, the current infestation on the Targhee is presently three years old and infestations on the Boise and Payette Forests are approximately eight years old.

Other timber species occurring within or adjacent to the infested stands include lodgepole pine, white bark pine and quaking aspen. These species have received no defoliation resulting from the western spruce budworm but have received localized damage from the mountain pine beetle and leaf minor. There are currently no known threatened or endangered vegetation species within or adjacent to the infested stands.

b. Land Forms

Three preliminary land types existing within the defoliation areas include weakly dissected mountain slopes, moderately dissected mountain slopes, and benchy mountain slope land. These land types possess varying topographic gradients ranging from 5 to 55 percent with average slopes of approximately 20 to 30 percent. Elevations inclusive within the infested stands range from 6100 feet at Huntley Canyon to 8200 feet at the Continental Divide above Henry's Lake.

Soils along the south slopes of the Centennial Mountains were derived from tertiary rhyolite and cretaceous sediments to form a loam and sandy laom texture. Soil depth varies from 60+ inches along benchy mountain slopes to 18 inches within the dissected mountain slope lands. Tallis slopes and exposed

bedrock are prevalent throughout the higher elevations.

Hydrology and Fisheries

Beaver Creek, Camas Creek, and Henry's Lake form the three major watersheds encompassing the heaviest defoliated timber stands. The network of drainages comprising these watersheds contain first, second, and third order streams which provide a breeding ground and successful fisheries for rainbow, brook, and German brown trout. Water from these areas is eventually used by the communities of Spencer, Dubois, and Kilgore plus several local ranchers along the west bank of Henry's Lake for irrigation and livestock watering.

Huntley Canyon is the municipal watershed for the community of Spencer. Forest Service land within this watershed is under a special use permit by the village of Spencer. Concentrations of the western spruce budworm have produced heavy defoliation of Douglas-fir within the timber adjacent to this second order stream.

Wildlife

The diversity of vegetation and variety of understory species existing within the Centennial Mountain range provides a conducive wildlife habitat for many rocky mountain animals. Some of the major wildlife species present within the infested forest habitat types include mule deer, elk, moose, antelope, black bear, coyote, grouse, geese, hawk, sandhill crane and eagle. There are no known threatened or endangered species of wildlife within the areas considered for insect control.

Recreation

Stoddard Creek campground, Steel Creek campground, Old Beaver campground, and the Albert E. Taylor summer home are located within or adjacent to the defoliated stands on the Dubois Ranger District. These summer-use developments are currently producing 18.8 thousand visitor days annually attracting travelers from Interstate-15 and large weekend groups from adjacent communities and Idaho Falls.

Henry's Lake, on the Island Park District, receives heavy recreational use during the summer months attracting campers, fisherman, and travelers on route to Yellowstone Park. Staley Springs, a resort ranch located along the western shores of Henry's Lake, accommodates fishermen and vacationers throughout the summer season.

Additional recreational activities occuring within, or adjacent to, the infested stands include hunting, fishing, hiking, snowmobiling, and cross-country skiing. There are presently no known historical or archeological land marks within the areas of consideration.

Range

A dense understory of range species provides a managed resource which supports cattle and sheep grazing across the majority of forest land on the south slopes of the Centennial Mountains. Sheep and cattle allotments lie within all Douglas-fir defoliated stands on both the Dubois and Island Park Districts. This involves 17 permittees possessing grazing rights in excess of 17,500 animal months. Grazing on the forest lasts from

approximately 6/15 through 9/30 and provides the bulk of summer range for participating ranchers.

Names and Addresses of Persons and/or Organizations Responsible for Out-Service Users or Activity

1. Permittee	Allotment
a. Webster, H. R. Fayle, Ben T. & Bennie D.	Cottonwood C&H
b. Martin, Elden	Pleasant Valley S&G
c. West Camas Cattle Assn.	West Camas C&H
d. Medicine Lodge Grazing Assn.	Huntley Canyon S&G
e. East Beaver Cattle Assn.	East Beaver C&H
f. Woodfield, Elman T.	West Beaver C&H
g. Petersen, Lee & Mona	Threemile C&H
h. Clark, Keith Clark, Robert & Jerry Gasser & Mickelsen	Idaho Hollow C&H
i. Martin, Elden	Stoddard Creek S&G
j. Martin, Elden	Rattlesnake Creek S&G
k. Martin, Elden	Corral Creek S&G
l. Nagle, Jr.	West Lake S&G
m. West Lake Cattle Assn.	West Lake C&H

2. Idaho State Fish & Game Dept.
Idaho Falls, Idaho

3. Village of Spencer
Spencer, Idaho

4. Local Timber Industry
   a. Rexburg Lumber Company
      Rexburg, Idaho
   b. Wadsworth Lumber Company
      St. Anthony, Idaho
   c. Stoddard Lumber Company
      St. Anthony, Idaho
5. State Forestry
   Idaho Falls, Idaho

6. Private Land

a. Clark Brothers
b. Doschades, Ed
c. Meyers, Keith
d. Middle Creek Land & Livestock
e. Rigby, Lester

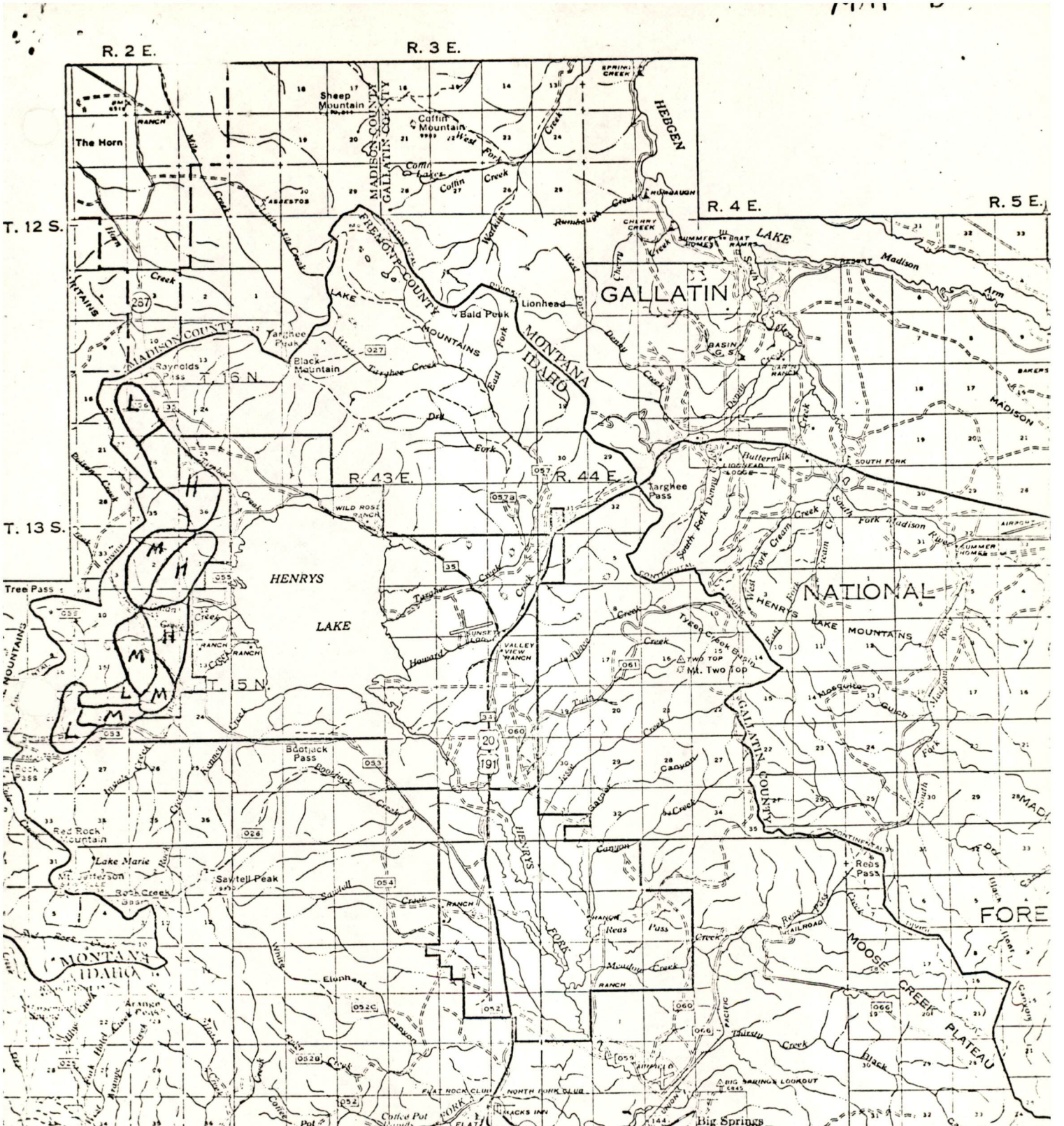
f. Steel, Moroni
g. Vadnais Brothers
h. Johnson, Wayne
i. Webster, Kenneth
j. Magleby, Sterling
k. Lee, J. C.
l. Questa, V. L.
m. Lion, Maude
n. Blackburn, Virginia C.
o. Siepert, George
p. Spencer, Dennis V.

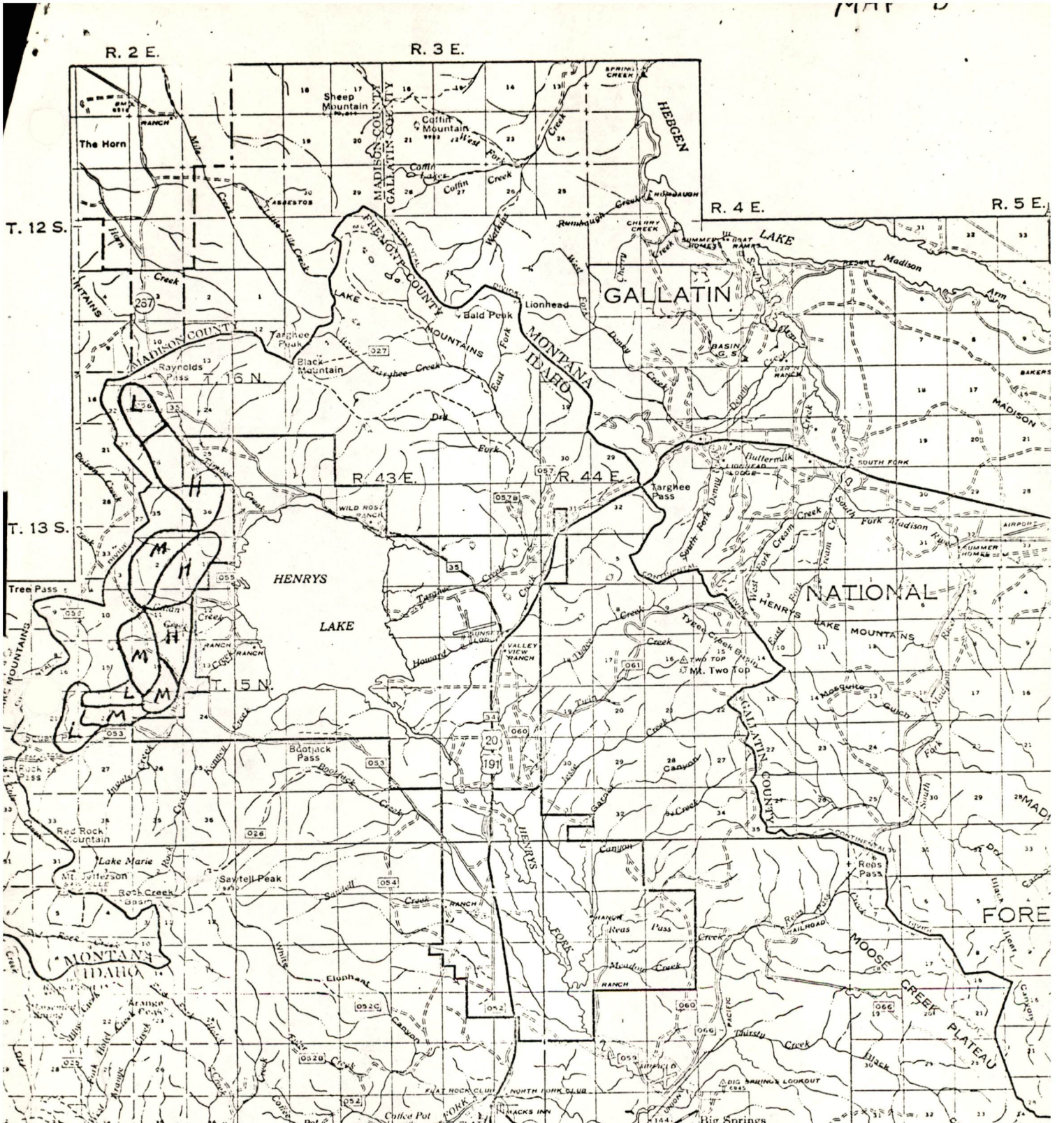
MAP A

Generalized Distribution of
Western Spruce Budworm Infestations in
the Dubois Ranger District
1976

Legend

Defoliation Intensity	Acres
Light	10,500
Moderate	7,300
Heavy	7,100


R. 2 E.
R. 3 E.
R. 4 E.
R. 5 E.
T. 12 S.
T. 13 S.
T. 16 N.
T. 15 N.
Sheep Mountain
The Horn
Coffin Mountain
Coffin Lakes
Coffin Creek
West Fork Coffin Creek
MADISON COUNTY
GALLATIN COUNTY
FREMONT COUNTY
HEBGEN LAKE
GALLATIN
Madison Arm
Lionhead
Bald Peak
Targhee Peak
Black Mountain
Raynolds Pass
Targhee Creek
MONTANA
IDAHO
MOUNTAINS
Buttermilk Lodge
South Fork Madison River
Targhee Pass
WILD ROSE RANCH
HENRYS LAKE
Tyson Creek Basin
Mt. Two Top
VALLEY VIEW RANCH
Howard Creek
Tree Pass
Bootjack Pass
Red Rock Mountain
Lake Marie
Mt. Jefferson
Sawtell Peak
Rock Creek
Elkhead
Reas Pass
Moose Creek Plateau
Big Springs
Big Springs Lookout
Coffee Pot Rapids
Hacks Inn
Flat Rock Club
North Fork Club
Generalized Distribution of
Western Spruce Budworm Infestations in
the Island Park Ranger District
1976
Legend
Defoliation Intensity
Acres
Light
1,100
Moderate
2,000
Heavy
2,500



Generalized Distribution of Western Spruce Budworm Infestations in the Island Park Ranger District 1976

Legend

Defoliation Intensity	Acres
Light	1,100
Moderate	2,000
Heavy	2,500